

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 6299

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA

SUBJ: KEY ISSUES AT 28TH UNGA

REF: STATE 163147

1. EMBASSY EHLD INITIAL REVIEW SESSION OF UNGA AGENDA ITEMS AUG 23 WITH FOREIGN OFFICE (MARTINEZ OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPTL). GOA-UN AMBASSADOR ORTIZ DE ROZAS HAS JUST RETURNED TO BUENOS AIRES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FORMULATION OF THE GOA POSITIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS AND THESE INTERNAL MEETINGS ARE JUST NOW GETTING UNDERWAY. IN GENERAL MARTINEZ SAID NO DRAMATIC SHIFT FROM ITS POSITIONS AT THE LAST GA IS EXPECTED, EXCEPT FOR STRONGER SUPPORT OF ALL ANTI-COLONIAL ITEMS (REFLECTING THEIR DISPUT WITH THE UK OVER THE MALVINAS ISLANDS) AND SOME INFLUENCE STEMMING FROM ARGENTINE PARTICIPATION THIS YEAR AS A FULL PARTICIPANT IN THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN ALGERIA. GOA POSITIONS ON A NUMBER OF ITEMS HAVE NOT YET BEEN DECIDED, AND WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF A LATER REVIEW SESSION. THOSE INDICATED BY MARTINEZ ARE LISTED BELOW.

2. KOREA (SEE SEPTTEL).

3. CONVENTION ON PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS--GOA POSTION ON THIS ITEM LIKELY TO BE UNCHANGED FROM LAST YEAR. GOA
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SUPPORTS COMPLETION OF CONVENTION ON SCHEDULE.

4. TERRORISM--THE GOA POSITION ON THIS ITEM IS STILL UNDER STUDY. IT IS ENDEAVORING TO FIND SOME MIDDLE GROUND BETWEEN THE "AFRO/ARAB POSITION" AND THAT OF THE US, WHICH DESPITE SOME SOFTENING, MARTINEZ BELIEVES STILL TO BE TOO STRONG TO COMMAND WIDESPREAD SUPPORT, ALTHOUGH GOA IS BASICALLY IN SYMPATHY WITH OUR POSITION, HE INDICATED THAT THE GOA STANCE AT THE ICAO MEETING IN ROME WILL PROBABLY OVERSHADOW THEIR ULTIMATE POSITION ON THIS ISSUE. HE SAID TOO THAT HE WAS ABOUT TO LOOK INTO THE "FRENCH PROPOSALS" WHICH HE THOUGHT MIGHT BE PROMISING IN THE SEARCH FOR A MIDDLE GROUND.

5. WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE--THE GOA IS IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE US POSITION IN THAT IT BELIEVES THAT THE CONFERENCE SHOULD NOT BE HELD TOO SOON IN ORDER TO ALLOW TIME FOR THE NECESSARY HOMEWORK IN PREPARATION ON THE IMPORTANT ISSUES INVOLVED. HE INDICATED THAT THE RESULTS OF THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE COULD HAVE SOME EFFECT ON THE GOA POSITION BUT DID NOT THINK THIS WAS VERY LIKELY.

6. NON-USE OF FORCE--AFTER HEARING US POSITION ON THIS POINT, MARTINEZ ONLY COMMENT WAS THAT IN GENERAL THE GOA IS RESPECTFUL OF THE WILL OF SECURITY COUNCIL WHICH UNDER CHAPTER 7 HAS EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION IN THIS AREA. IN BROAD TERMS HE INDICATED GOA POSITION CORRESPONDED CLOSELY TO THAT OF US.

7. NAPALM--MARTINEZ SAW NO CHANGE IN ARGENTINE POSITION ON THIS ITEM AND HOPED TO BE ABLE TO GIVE FURTHER INFORMATION AT A LATER DATE ON THIS POINT.

8. MIDDLE EAST--HERE AGAIN MARTINEZ EXPECTS NO BASIC CHANGE IN THE GOA POSITION. HE POINTED OUT THAT GOA HAS GOOD RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, AND A DESIRE TO MAINTAIN THEM. HE AGREED THAT SC RES 242 IN WHOSE DRAFTING THE GOA HAD PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE THE UNDERLYING GUIDELINE ON THIS QUESTION.

9. AFRICAN ISSUES. (A) RHODESIA--WHILE INDICATING THAT
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GOA HAS HAD ITS OWN PROBLEMS (SHIPS IN TRADE) ON THIS SUBJECT, MARTINEZ EXPECTS THIS TO BE AMONG THE DECOLONIALIZATION ITEMS ON WHICH THE ARGENTINE POSITION WILL BE STRONGER THIS YEAR. HE SAID THAT TWO MONTHS AGO ARGENTINA HAD ENACTED A NEW LAW WHICH MAKES THE SECURITY SANCTIONS OF THE UN THE EFFECTIVE LAW OF THE COUNTRY. GOA WILL ENDEAVOR TO CONTROL VIOLATIONS OF THE SANCTIONS BY ITS CITIZENS. HE RECOGNIZED THAT OTHER COUNTRIES WERE INVOLVED IN THIS TRADE TO A FAR

GREATER DEGREEE THAN THE US, BUT THOUGH THAT ANY SUCH OFFICIAL ACTION AS THE BYRD AMENDMENT MADE THE US PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TO CRITICISM. HE SAID GOA WOULD ENDEAVOR TO BE HELPFUL BUT COULD MAKE NO PROMISES. (B) PORTUGUESE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS--MARTINEZ THOUGH THE NON ALIGNED CONFERENCE WILL PROBABLY TAKE A STRONG POSITION ON THIS SUBJECT, BUT HE AGREED WITH THE US POSITION THAT ACCEPTANCE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THESE MOVEMENTS IN UNGA COMMITTEES MUST BE WITHOUT OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF THESE MOVEMENTS AS GOVERNMENTS. MARTINEZ WAS NOT YET FAMILIAR WITH THE RESULTS OF THE UN/OAU OSLO CONFERENCE, BUT IN GENERAL, HE SAID, THE GOA WOULD SUPPORT ONLY PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO COLONIALPROBLEMS, FOR WHICH HE SAID THE CHARTER GIVE SUFFICIENT SCOPE.

10. HUMAN RIGHTS--EXPRESSING AGREEMENT WITH MORE BALANCED CONSIDERATION PROPOSED BY US, MARTINEZ SAID ARGENTINA WOULD CERTAINLY NOT OPPOSE THIS BUT THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND POSSIBLY THE AFRICANS WOULD. GOA SUPPORTS ESTABLISHMENT OF A UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, AND A DECLARATION ON ELIMINATION OF RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE IF THIS CAN BE DIVORCED FROM ANY POLITICAL CONNOTATIONS.

11. FINANCIAL PROBLEMS--ON THIS SUBJECT MARTINEZ SAID GOA HAD NO INTEREST IN SEEING ITS QUOTA INCREADED, BUT HE BELIEVED THAT SOME MINOR ITEMS WHICH THE ASSEMBLY WILL ADOPT MAY RESULT IN AT LEAST SOME INCREASE IN EXPENDITURES. AMONG THESE HE MENTIONED THE PROPOSAL TO MAKE CHINESE ONE OF THE OFFICIAL WORKING LANGUAGES AT A COST HE ESTIMATED AT AT LEAST \$1 MILLION. GOA WILL SUPPORT THIS. WITH RESPECT TO DOLLAR PAYMENTS, HE SAID THA T THE UN STAFF BOTH IN NEW YORK AND GENEVA WERE CURRENTLY EXERTING TREMENDOUS PRESSURE ON THE SECRETARIAT TO CONFIDENTIAL

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CHANGE THEIR PAY FROM A DOLLAR BASIS SINCE IN SOME AREAS THIS HAS MEANT AS MUCH AS A 40 PERCENT CUT IN PAY BECAUSE OF DEVALUATIONS. HE PERSONALLY AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE PRUDENT TO AWAIT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A NEW SYSTEM OF CURRENCIES BEFORE MAKING DECISIONS ON THIS POINT, BUT SAID THAT THE GOA POS
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